



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

08/835,732 04/11/97 KLEIN

D MPAT. 172A

EXAMINER

020995 MMC2/0814
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP
620 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE
SIXTEENTH FLOOR
NEWPORT BEACH CA 92660

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2871
DATE MAILED:

08/14/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/835,732

Applicant(s)
Klein

Examiner
Dung Nguyen

Group Art Unit
2871



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 24, 2000

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

The request filed on 07/24/2000 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 08/835,732 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-3, 14-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Malhi, US Patent No. 5,844,773.

The above claims are anticipated by Malhi's figure 4 and accompanying text, which together disclose an LCD device and method for conducting light to such device comprising:

- a LCD housing (22, 80) functions as a light pipe for conducting light from a light source (85) to the LCD (50) and protects the LCD (col.3, ln. 20+);
- the LCD housing includes a reflectively coated outer surface (col. 4, ln.22-23);
- the LCD housing also includes an inner surface and the LCD (26) is adjacent to such surface with a gap in between for the diffuser layer (80) to conduct light out of the LCD housing and to the LCD.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4-13 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Malhi, US Patent No. 5,844,773..

Regarding the above claims, Malhi discloses the claimed invention except for the reflectively coated surface being made of a metal capable of attenuating EMI emissions. It is notoriously well known in the art to use a metal layer as a light reflector, and such metal layer can also act as an EMI shield. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a metal layer as the reflective and EMI-shielding surface because:

- the use of a metal layer such as aluminum, chromium, or nickel as a reflective layer in an illumination apparatus for a LCD is notoriously well know;
- Consumer desire for higher computing power of laptops, coupled with the advent of faster computer processors available, result in an increase in electromagnetic interference being generated by such laptops; therefore, the reflective metal layer, due to its conductive property, can also act as an EMI shield to attenuate EMI leaking out of the laptops; furthermore, it can also

act as a heat sink to reduce the increasing heat being associated with faster processors and computer electronics in the laptops.

Conclusion

5. This is a continuation of applicant's earlier Application No. 08/835,732. All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the earlier application and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the earlier application. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action in this case. See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no, however, event will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.


Serial Number: 08/835,732
Art Unit: 2871

Page 5

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-0423. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7726.

Any information of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

DN
08/14/2000


William L. Sikes
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 2871